



FY2008 RECOMMENDATION/FY08-BP51 STANDARDIZE DRIVER'S LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

Status: Implementation Complete

Actions/Updates

2010 UPDATE

Implementation complete. Department of Corrections officials report that DOC has created a new Administrative Regulation providing guidelines to community parole staff to ensure a more consistent response to the issue of whether offenders are given permission to drive. DOC states the Administrative Regulation stresses that this decision should be based on the offender's individual risk.

2009 ACTION/IMPLEMENTATION

The Department of Corrections reports that they will develop and implement a policy to standardize the practice of approving driving privileges for individuals on parole and in community corrections by October 1, 2009. DOC reports that the policy will be based on statute, offender performance, and public safety. Criteria for approval will be linked to the offender's criminal history, employment opportunities, and program compliance.

The parole board typically defers decisions about driving restrictions to the supervising officer.

2009 IMPACT

Progress made toward the development of written criteria pertaining to driving restrictions will be reported in the June 2010 Commission report. Note that it is impossible to measure the impact of restricting certain behaviors (such as driving) in order to protect the public. Lack of data to (1) assess consistency in policy implementation (variation across supervising officers), and (2) determine the extent to which the new policy removes barriers to offender success, precludes assessing this recommendation for its impact on recidivism reduction.

2009 BARRIERS

DOC reports no barriers to implementation. Lack of information precludes determining the impact of this recommendation.

Description

Any limitation or restriction of an offender's driver's license while on parole and community corrections must be based on specific, written, and standardized criteria.

Agencies Responsible

Department of Corrections, the state board of parole, local community corrections programs

Discussion

The implementation of this recommendation is underway. Its full implementation is intended to remove barriers to successful re-entry into the community while maintaining public safety, per the Commission's statutory mandate [C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(1)].